

MINUTES OF CASRA MEETING – August 4, 2008 - UIL Building, Austin, Texas

1. Meeting called to order by President Dave Robertson at 6:33 pm.

Spoke about CASRA using the UIL room for our meetings for free. We used to meet at another location which was difficult to get to and cost us about \$100 per meeting. We cannot abuse our privileges here. This facility is a secure facility. No one can be in here before the meeting time. Which means that you cannot enter through the back door as an employee is leaving the building.

2. Introduction of Guests: John Gusky, Grade 8; Enge Xing, Grade 5; Eduardo Alvarado, Pete Hoyt; Tim Mocaygembca from Marble Falls and just visiting, Tim Rice from College Station.

3. Reports

- (a) June 2008 minutes were approved.
- (b) Treasurer: (Noel Gonsalvez) Not present tonight, will give report next month.
- (c) Secretary: (Marcello Rodriguez) No report.

(d) CASRA Vice President (John Smith): Has four door prizes tonight which will be raffled after the meeting. Still has a few *Advice to Referees on the Laws of the Game* for \$9.00 for sale and you cannot download them from the US Soccer website as mentioned in last month's meeting.

Showed the newly created CASRA flipping coin which the membership approved for purchase last month. It will be used for membership incentives and will give three to each paid up member and one each year that you renew your membership. We will also give some to each CASRA referee who goes to Regional or National tournaments or other special tournaments. They can be bought for \$2.00 each.

(e) Webmaster: (Mike Day) New memorandum are out there on our web site. There is a CASRA clinic online which he created for those CASRA members who receive their training at our meetings. He will sign you in after our meeting. Or you can email him to sign up. Other members can register for classes through STSR.Org. We will have testing in October and November after the CASRA meeting.

(f) District Three Representative (Paul Stanberry): Notes of State Referee Committee Meeting July 2008: This is a repeat of an entry submitted after the June 08 mtg.

"This meeting was the second consecutive teleconference this year of the South Texas Soccer Referees (STSR) State Referee Committee (SRC). Next meeting in October will be in San Antonio. Meeting chaired by Steve Eells, State Referee Administrator (SRA).

Bad News – Good News Report:

USSF has raised referee registration fees effective immediately (see below). STSR will continue to add \$10 to these fees. Of note, USSF rescinded the published assignor increase, perhaps to relieve assignor shortages. Half of the fee increase will stay in South Texas for STSR to be used in referee development and services.

Referee, Instructor, Assessor and Assignor Fees Effective 06/16/08

Category/Type	Fee
Referee	
Grade 1	\$100
Grade 2	\$100
Grade 3	\$100
Grade 4	\$100
Grade 5	\$75
Grade 6	\$75
Grade 7	\$45
Grade 8	\$40
Grade 9	\$40
Grade 12	\$40
Grade 13	\$75
Grade 15	\$75
Grade 16	\$75
Indoor/Futsal - Grade 8	\$45
Beach Soccer - Grade 8	\$45
Instructor	
Grade 3	\$100
Grade 4	\$100
Grade 5	\$75
Grade 7	\$45
Grade 9	\$40
Grade 11	\$40
Assessor	
Grade 3	\$100
Grade 5	\$75
Grade 6	\$75
Grade 7	\$45
Grade 9	\$40
Assignor	
Grade 8	\$100

Hal Mechler, new STSR Treasurer, has developed professional conflicts with this volunteer task, and will be only able to assist on a technical basis. Operations manager (Ops Mgr), Michael Day will perform the brunt of financial work, with SRC oversight by members Palomera, Jorn, and Mechler .

A cache of checks from referees for payments earlier this year for a variety of services (class fees, registrations, assessments, etc) has been found in the transition documents from the past to present treasurer. Referees with checks outstanding may finally find them now processed. Should the bank refuse to honor these checks due to the time elapsed, expect a note from STSR requesting a new payment check. SRC apologizes for the inconvenience.

Financial report reveals balanced receipts and expenses for STSR with residual deficit in the reserve fund of one-half its intended amount. A portion of the fee increase may replenish this fund. Decision on this allocation is pending end of year referee instruction and development costs.

Further Notes of Interest:

Jair Maruffo, FIFA referee from El Paso has been selected to officiate the 2008 Olympics.

A grade 07 upgrade is planned for the Austin-San Antonio area. Level 08 referees interested in the challenge of higher level certification with its privileges are encouraged to monitor the STSR web site and apply. Higher intensity game assignment and bonus reimbursement frequently follow the successful referee in this endeavor.

Management of liability risk has been an SRC topic of discussion for the last year. This volunteer group has vulnerability in its supervision of STSR. Areas of concern include sexual misconduct by adults with juveniles. Despite USSF requirements to admit to misconduct with each recertification, further legal advice seems needed by the SRC regarding due diligence in this area. A risk management ad hoc committee will be established to study options and make recommendation to the SRC. In the meantime, SRC endorses continued South Texas Youth Soccer Assn (STYSA) KidSafe programs.

STYSA compliments STSR for excellent referee support of its programs and tournaments. It also relates increased interest in leagues and assignors to deny referees without current certification assignment to youth matches. Despite this positive feedback, the United States Youth Soccer Assn (USYSA) proposes a separate referee certification program from that of USSF. SRC suggests USYSA reconsider this division of the referee community.

STSR invites nominations from assignors and referees interested in higher level training in an STSR Academy program. Please forward names of interested individuals to district representatives or SRA.

Items of interest for the next SRC meeting or questions about information above are welcome for my attention at jdlpks1@msn.com .”

Respectfully submitted,

Paul Stansberry
STSR District 3 Representative

(g) Director of Assessments: (Saki Papadopoulos) Not present.

(h) Area assignors: VP Smith mentioned the Austin Labor Day Cup the end of the month, and this is the email from Janice:

In its 7th year, the tournament is expecting 400+ teams for 3 fun days of exciting soccer in Central Texas. Go to <http://www.lonestar-sc.com/tourn/aldc/referees.php> and register. ONLY REGISTER ONCE. If there are changes that need to be made, email those changes to me directly. PLEASE DO NOT REGISTER MORE THAN ONE TIME. This year's venues will include: CAYSA, NEMP, Onion Creek, OSP, T&C, WRCP, and WCRP-U9/10.

Comp hotel rooms are available for out of town referees who travel over 60 miles and work at least 2 days of the tournament. There is a hotel request form that must be emailed to the hotel coordinator after you register for the tournament. Additionally, food and refreshments will be provided at each site. Incentive pay for higher level classification referees will be paid daily at the field.

Developmental assessments will be offered with a limited number of full assessments for upgrades available in the full-length semis or final matches. On-line scheduling will be utilized through www.thearbiter.net. Friday night's mandatory meeting will include a guest presenter, TBA, and distribution of flipping coins and schedules.

Please feel free to pass this email on to referees that may be interested in joining the referee team for ALDC!

*For the good of the game,
Janice Taylor
ALDC Referee Assignor
Austin TASO Referee Assignor
CAYSA Referee Assignor
DTA Elite Invitational Referee Assignor
512-784-1008*

4. Old Business: None.
5. New Business: None.
6. The meeting closed at 7:15 pm for training: "US Soccer Points of Interest" – by Michelle Maloney. Prior to that she reviewed a few changes for the Laws.

Respectfully submitted, Marcello Rodriguez

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